1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
*5.	Tamil Nadu	28	1545.76	332.09	29	2283.73	173.35
16.	Uttaranchal	13	401.81	—	8	411.87	*
17.	Uttar Pradesh	70	7539.79	310.06	—	—	—

**initial demand.

#State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has not formally declared the drought affected areas.

*High Level Committee in its meeting held on 14.7.2004, approved Rs. 3.24 crores, subject to adjustment of balance in Calamity Relief Fund of the State, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Dubey Committee Report

1041. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Debey Committee submitted its recommendations on the case of Endosulfan in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Dubey Committee Report was based on the analysis of Indian Institute of Bio-Technology and Toxicology (IIBT);

(d) whether it is a fact that the Lab Report of the IIBT revealed existence of Endosulfan residues in the blood sample of children in the affected areas; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that this finding is not mentioned in the report submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Dubey Committee made the following recommendations:—

(1) There is no link established between use of Endosulfan in Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK) plantations and health problems reported in Padre village.

(2) In consideration of the recommendations given by various other committees, the Committee recommended that aerial spraying of pesticides may not be allowed at all in any situations including in PCK plantations to ensure full safety.

(3) The application of all pesticides including Endosulfan is to be done adhering to regulatory stipulations in force from time to time.

(4) The pesticides manufacturers should take necessary steps to promote and educate sellers and users to ensure correct and safe use of all pesticides.

(5) Since India has adequate pre-registration data requirement and post-registration review processes concerning use of pesticides, the Committee recommended that science-based responses be made available to all stake-holders and general public by registration authorities. There is often a huge gap between perception of the risk and actual scientific risk assessment. This gap is to be filled by proper and timely propagation of knowledge and information.

(6) Since the relationship of alleged illness with Endosulfan in Padre could not be established, the Committee recommended to conduct a comprehensive, well designed and detailed health and epidemiological study in the entire cashew plantation area of Kerala to ascertain the incidences of diseases in Padre *vis-a-vis* Kerala State averages and in case there is evidence of unusual health problem to investigate and if possible pinpoint the probable/most probable factor(s) that are responsible for alleged health problems.

(7) Finally, after considering all above factors and available reports, the Committee recommended that use of Endosulfan be continued as per provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968.

(c) Dubey Committee Report was based on the examination of the report of National Institute of Occupational Health, Kerala Agriculture University, Fredrick Institute of Plant Protection and Toxicology (FIPPAT), now International Institute of Biotechnology and Toxicology (IIBT), Dr. Achyuthan Committee, information received from District Medical Officer, Kasargod, State Agriculture Universities, Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes, field visits, deliberations and inputs from members and experts.

(d) and (e) The report of IIBT reveals existence/presence of peaks of Endosulfan residues in Gas Chromotograph Chromatogram *viz.*, Alpha Endosulfan, Beta Endosulfan and Endosulfan Sulphate in 5 out of the 112

blood samples which, however, were not detected in conformity test by Gas Chromotograph coupled with Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS) analysis. IIBT has clarified that these chromatograms proved to be artifacts/false positive signals, as the confirmatory tests with GC-MS on these samples did not confirm to Endosulfan moiety.

Drought in Uttaranchal

†1042. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central study team has assessed the situation of unprecedented drought in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the total estimate with regard to loss suffered due to drought in the State;

(c) whether State Government have sought any assistance to deal with this situation;

(d) if so, the details with regard to assistance sought; and

(e) the financial assistance provided by the Central Government so far, under the various heads to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) In May, 2004, the Government of Uttaranchal had declared parts of 8 districts in the State as drought affected. In response to the State Government's request for Central assistance of Rs. 411.87 crores from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of drought, a Central team had visited the State in June, 2004 for assessment of the situation. This was considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), in its meeting held on 14th July, 2004 and the HLC approved Rs. 3.24 crores, subject to adjustment of balance in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.